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HON. ADLAI STEVENSON'S day of posing is over. A Vice President is only a big man when a President is not around.

If Senator McHugh would take time to visit Russia he might pick up some valuable ideas in regard to censorship of the press.

Mr. ADER is not a particularly thin-skinned statesman, but he could not think of having the gerrymander ignominiously go into history linked to his name.

Of ten Democrats who voted to substitute a gerrymander for a Legislature, seen yesterday, nine secretly confessed that it is a measure which cannot be defended.

There is reason to believe that Senator McHugh would like to have all press criticisms of him and his bills brought under the definition of libelous matter.

The number of Democrats is increasing daily who are impelled by a strong sense of duty to accept office under Mr. Cleveland in order to help him and serve the country.

The office of Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate was never more worthily filled than it has been by Mr. Morton. There is a good deal more in him than was generally believed when he was elected.

If Statistician Peelle had put forth his reports showing the increase of wages in Indiana since the passage of the McKinley law last September he would have been as bitterly denounced by the Democrats as was Statistician Peelle of New York.

It would be a grand thing for this country if every city in the land could be brought and kept under thoroughly nonpartisan government. Party politics in municipal government is as much out of place as party politics in railroad management would be.

HEREAFTER those who speak accurately of the law-making branch of the State government will give it the title "Gerrymander." The General Assembly is a thing of the past since an assemblage in which 50,000 voters are without representation cannot be general.

It was a scandalous spectacle, that of Warden Patten, of the southern prison, actively lobbying against a bill which, if passed, would have brought a considerable revenue to the State and practical benefit to free labor. What interest has the warden in continuing the present convict labor system? Does he stand in with the lessees?

The State printer seems to have been playing into the hands of the Democratic party, and of Attorney-general Smith in particular, in keeping back that officer's report. The atmosphere of the Attorney-general's office is strongly redolent of partisan jobbery. There is a good deal more "skulduggery" than law practiced there.

If Grover Cleveland sits down on Vice President Stevenson as promptly and as hard as he did on Vice President Hendricks, the Illinois statesman will probably realize that he is not going to have much to do with administering the government or dispensing patronage. His influence will probably end with the naming of the postmaster at Bloomington and his own private secretary.

GOVERNOR MATTHEWS and Attorney-general Smith have both complained because, as they allege, the Supreme Court in the gerrymander decision infringed on the rights of the Legislature. Yet both of these officials went into the Democratic caucus and did their best to force it to re-negotiate the gerrymander of 1891, thereby coercing the Legislature and insulting the Supreme Court. They do not seem to care to number consistency among their jewels.

It is not pleasant to learn that Secretary of the Treasury Foster is urging Deputy Controller of the Currency Nixon to resign in order that he may appoint his private secretary, Mr. Wynne, to the position. The position of Deputy Controller should be filled by a banker experienced in financial affairs. Mr. Wynne is a newspaper correspondent, and has had no experience whatever of a kind to qualify him to act as Deputy Controller of the Currency. It is to be hoped that Mr. Nixon will not resign in order to make a place for the Secretary's private secretary.

It is probable that Mr. Lindemuth's bill to divide the taxes upon mortgaged property, so that the holder of the property will pay only upon the portion that he actually owns and the holder of the mortgage the part which his claim

covers will become law. It is based upon equity. Under the present laws, the occupant of mortgaged property pays a tax upon the whole, and if the holder of the mortgage is taxed for the amount of his claim as money, a portion of the property is taxed twice. For instance, A has a farm appraised at \$4,000, which he owns and for which he is taxed upon \$4,000. B occupies the adjoining farm, worth just the same and appraised the same, but it is mortgaged for \$3,000; nevertheless it is now taxed to B for \$4,000, so that he pays taxes on \$3,000 which is not only not his property, but for which he pays rent in the shape of interest—a palpable injustice. If the holder of the mortgage is taxed for his investment in the farm, amounting to \$2,000, one farm is practically taxed for \$4,000 and the other for \$6,000. The two men, B and the holder of the mortgage, have only \$4,000 worth of property in that farm. No matter how they manipulate it, it can be worth no more than \$4,000, and for that reason the tax should be divided between the two real owners in proportion to their interest.

AN OUTRAGE ON FREE LABOR.

The action of the House in defeating the prison-labor bill, in the opinion of the Journal, entirely indefensible on grounds of justice, humanity or policy. The bill, the credit of introducing which is due to Senator Magee, was avowedly in the interest of free labor. It proposed to try and lessen the evils of convict labor and its injurious effect on free labor by providing that 95 cents a day should be the minimum price at which convict labor should be let to any lessee. It is conceded on all hands that convict labor is injurious to free labor in that it tends to reduce, and actually does reduce, the wages of free labor in those lines of production in which it is employed. It stands to reason that it must do so. A member of the committee that has been investigating the sweat-shops of Chicago expressed the opinion that the infamous system was largely due to the sale in Chicago of large amounts of clothing made by the convicts at Sing Sing, N. Y., such clothing being put on the market in Chicago at prices that local manufacturers could not compete with except by screwing their employees down to starvation wages. It needs no argument to prove that manufacturers who hire laborers from the State at less than one-half the ordinary rate of wages can put their products on the market at lower prices than those who employ free labor.

The Magee bill was experimental, but it was in the right direction. Its result could not be predicted with certainty, but it was an honest attempt to do something for free labor. It might not have accomplished all that was expected of it, but if it accomplished anything its passage would have been vindicated. Nay more; even if it did not accomplish any good whatever it was worth while to make the effort and try the experiment. The hardships of the working classes are so real and their demands so imperative that everything in reason should be done to better their condition, and the State of Indiana could well have afforded, in their interest, to try the experiment of raising the price of its convict labor. There is every reason to believe, also, that the measure would have resulted in a considerable increase of revenue to the State. If the State must engage in the vicious and demoralizing practice of leasing convict labor it should at least get the highest price possible for it and make it as little injurious as possible to free labor.

Yet this just and righteous measure, after passing the Senate, was defeated in the House by a vote of 35 yeas to 44 nays, all the latter being Democrats except two. There are only two possible explanations of this vote: it was either to spite free labor or to favor the lessees of convict labor. Those who voted against the bill really voted to pull down the wages of free labor and to put money in the pockets of the convict labor lessees. The defeat of the bill was an outrage on free labor that no amount of honeyed words or fair promises in campaign times can atone for.

INTER-PARTY COURTESIES.

There is not a thorough-going Republican in the land who is not pleased because President Harrison has extended unusual courtesies to Mr. Cleveland, his successor. Such courtesies are what the late President Garfield called "the flowers on the garden wall of politics." They tend to soften the asperities which grow up in campaigns between parties and to remind us all that, while we are partisans, we are citizens of the Republic, with a common interest and a common desire for its prosperity. Very gracious, indeed, is the attention which the model of Vice Presidents, Mr. Morton, has extended to his successor. The example should not be lost upon the country. Because honorable men differ regarding public policies, they should not be personal enemies or forget those amenities which, next to the home, give society security and make life in neighborhoods worth living. While an era in which there would be but one party is anything but desirable, an era of good will, causing all people of laudable motives to be on terms of good feeling and to entertain mutual respect is most desirable, and should be cultivated. The element which embitters parties is conscienceless leadership and unscrupulous tactics. The Journal is gratified that it is able to express its conviction that Mr. Cleveland's rugged integrity abhors the methods by which the Hill gang stole the Senate of New York in 1891, and that he would denounce unconstitutional gerrymanders, McHugh municipal extensions and like measures which have characterized the rule of the present Democratic regime in Indiana. There is every reason to believe that if Mr. Cleveland were a citizen of Indiana, instead of New York, he would be as unpopular with the Green Smith gang as he has been and is with the Hill-Murphy machine. Therefore, if the country must have a Democratic President Republicans are profoundly grateful that he is Grover Cleveland rather than David Bennett Hill. While the Journal believes that Mr. Cleveland's theories,

if made the policy of the country, will turn back the present prosperity, it cherishes the belief that he will not countenance that element in his party which has brought reproach upon it in Indiana and other States by unconstitutional methods. Because Republicans believe in Mr. Cleveland's integrity and his independence, and that he will rebuke unscrupulous demagogues, they are pleased to have the Republican President extend to him every expression of good will.

FOUR-YEAR TENURE OF OFFICE.

It is announced on the authority of persons who stand near Mr. Cleveland that in no case will a Republican officeholder be removed before the expiration of his term on purely political grounds. That is, there will be no removals except for cause, such as incompetence or wrong-doing in office, and in the absence of these Republican incumbents will be permitted to serve out their terms.

One of the greatest causes of dissatisfaction with President Harrison during the first two or three years of his term was that he did not make a clean sweep of Democratic officeholders, but left many of those who had been appointed by Mr. Cleveland in the second and third years of his administration to serve out their four years. When their terms expired he appointed Republicans. The Journal repeatedly called attention to the fact that if this principle were once established it would work fairly for both parties, and that Republicans appointed to office in the second or third year of Harrison's administration would, if his successor should be a Democrat, get the benefit of a full term by holding over till the second or third year of the next administration. But the critics of the President would not see it in this light. They insisted that the only safe policy was a clean sweep, and that no Democratic President would leave Republicans in office till the second or third year of his administration. Now it is announced that Mr. Cleveland will not remove from office Republicans who were appointed for four years except for cause. He will not remove them for political reasons only. President Harrison's action in this regard was praised by Democrats and censured by Republicans, while Mr. Cleveland's action, provided he does as it is said he will, will be praised by Republicans and censured by Democrats. But it is a good rule, a fair rule, and in the end will work justice to both sides. It should become the fixed rule of American politics.

PRINCESS KAULANI's address to the American people is pretty, and touching, and womanly, and indicative of a very sweet and amiable character, but it is entirely illogical. She begs the American people not to seize "my little vineyard," and appeals to them to let her resume possession of her kingdom. This is touching, but it is beside the case. It is beautiful, but it is not business. Princess Kaulani has no kingdom and no "little vineyard." She is simply her apparent to the Hawaiian throne, with no rights whatever while her aunt, the Queen, is alive. If anybody is to be restored to power it is the Queen. In the language of the day, Princess Kaulani is not "in it." Her visit to the United States is purely sentimental, and her address to the American people, while very well conceived and expressed, is really impertinent. It is highly probable that the young Princess is being coached by English advisers.

It seems to be definitely settled that ex-Gov. Isaac P. Gray will be appointed minister to Mexico. From a political standpoint it has seemed to be as assured fact that he would be recognized in some way, and the Mexican mission is quite a handsome recognition. It ranks as a first-class mission, the salary, \$17,500, being the same as that of the minister to Great Britain, France, Germany and Russia. For a very wealthy man who wished to see foreign countries and who was able to entertain lavishly one of the European missions might be preferred, but in all other respects Mexico is more desirable. It is comparatively near by rail, a pleasant place of residence, and the social requirements are much less exacting than those of European capitals. Governor Gray is not a diplomat, but he is a practical business man, and can probably look out for Uncle Sam's interests in Mexico as well as anybody who would be sent.

YESTERDAY the bill to force police commissioners upon all cities having 10,000 population and over which have not special charters was passed and went to the Governor. It means a tax of \$1,800 a year for commissioners and considerable more for subordinates. It applies to Terre Haute, South Bend, New Albany, Richmond, Lafayette, Logansport, Elkhart, Muncie, Michigan City, Anderson and Jeffersonville, according to the census of 1890, and now probably embraces Marion and Kokomo. That is, twelve cities will have Democratic police commissioners forced upon them and a Democratic police force, despite the fact that one commissioner must nominally be a Republican. Thus the law gives the Matthews-Smith faction of the Democracy an organized force with which to fight the Shanks-Morse faction. It is, however, a minor outrage compared with others.

THE DETROIT Free Press is responsible for this interesting paragraph: Oliver P. Morton wanted another Hoosier given a place in the Cabinet when President Grant called Gresham to his official family. But Grant, like Cleveland, knew whom he wanted.

The Free Press is evidently under the impression that Gresham was a member of Grant's Cabinet. If the Judge had been a Democrat more than three months it might have more accurate information concerning him.

the Democratic and Republican parties. Carter Harrison was nominated because he was acceptable to the very worst elements of the Democratic party, and bases his hopes of election on that ground; yet his own paper declares that the only hope of Republican success lies in their bringing out a candidate acceptable to the very best elements of the party. Carter is no fool.

HON. RICHARD OLNEY, Cleveland's Attorney-general, is one of those haughty, exclusive Bostonians who does not care to be known to the common herd, and therefore he never had his photograph taken. When he was dragged into prominence by Mr. Cleveland the papers went to him for portraits, and, of course, met with cold refusal. For a day or two he went about dodging kodaks and firm in the determination to permit no likeness of himself to illuminate the daily press. But he little knew what he was bringing upon himself. It was not till each of the Boston papers had published a so-called portrait of himself and enterprising outside papers were coming in with pictures "drawn from life," and boldly labeled "Olney," that the new Attorney-general saw resistance was of no use. No two of the alleged portraits looked alike, but each and all represented a person with apparently no mind. This would not do, Olney has mind, and the impression that he lacked it must not spread. Early in the week he went down and had his picture "taken" in the highest style of the art, and now all the papers that care for that sort of thing have it. The only authentic photograph does not show him as a professional beauty, but it is an improvement on the handmade article which preceded it.

It was not the Texas Christian Advocate, but the Richmond (Va.) Advocate that disgraced itself by approving of the burning alive of the crazy negro at Paris, Tex. Infamy where infamy is due. The Journal expresses its apologies to the Texas paper for having mistakenly alluded to it as an upholder of that savage deed. The St. Louis Advocate says of its Richmond contemporary that it ought to drop the word Christian from its title and style itself "The Lynchers' Advocate: An Organ of Savagery and Mob Violence."

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Please state what and where the international date line is, and when and for what purpose established.

A conference of scientists met at Washington, D. C., in 1884, to consider the question of establishing an international date line—that is, a uniform meridian from which all the nations of the world might reckon longitude. The prime meridian line now in use by Great Britain and all her colonies, by the United States and all the South American countries, is that of Greenwich, England. France uses the meridian of Paris, Spain reckons from San Fernando, Denmark from Copenhagen, while Germany and all the countries of eastern Europe follow the ancient geographers in fixing the meridian at Terro, the most westerly of the Canary islands. Any one of the standards of longitude is as good as any other if all nations would agree to use it, but the choice of Greenwich would involve fewer changes than any other. The general preference in the conference was for Greenwich, but the French members obstinately objected, and the conference disbanded without agreeing upon an international line. So far as we are aware no later action has been taken in the matter.

Not So Broad, After All.

It is funny to watch the grimaces of some of the straight-laced Democratic organs over the action of Judge Gresham. The more they think of it the deeper is their inward distress.—Springfield Republican.

But it is funnier still to reflect that Gresham's appointment was instantly justified by the mugwump organs as proof of the growing "breadth" and "liberalism" of the Democratic party. The way these flamboyant assertions have been upset by subsequent events is one of the most hilarious episodes of recent politics.

Another Affair Entirely.
New York Commercial Advertiser.

Several mugwump journals continue to be sorely grieved because of the appointment of Francis Pickens as a payment to the army "over the heads of old soldiers." It is worth while to note that these same mugwump journals are highly indignant over the appointment of Mr. Herbert, an ex-confederate soldier, as Secretary of the Navy, over the heads of old Union soldiers and sailors.

Another Affair Entirely.
Boston Journal.

As he surveys the makeup of the new Cabinet Isaac P. Gray, of Indiana, who stood out of Mr. Cleveland's way at Chicago on the promise of the vice presidency and then stood out of Adlai Stevenson's way in the interests of harmony, is more and more convinced that there is no such thing as gratitude in politics.

A Public Service.
New York Evening Post.

The recent proclamations of President Harrison announcing important additions to the forest reserves on the Pacific slope complete a series of notable public services. For which the President and Secretary Noble deserve the heartiest commendation.

The Solemn Thurber.
New York Advertiser.

Thurber, the new private secretary, seems to be impressed with the awful responsibility which has been thrust upon him. He appears to be almost as solemn as Joss himself.

Uncertain.
New York Morning Advertiser.

We have had this kind of weather ever since the election last fall. It is genuine Cleveland weather—it never knows one day what it means to do the next.

He Must Have Hired It Written.
New York Tribune.

Constant reader: You ask for the first name of the Gray who wrote the mournful elegy. They say out in Indianapolis that his first name was Isaac P. Gray.

The Fact of the Matter.
Boston Herald (Dem.).

Mr. Carlisle has a great deal to learn, and, perhaps, even more to forget, before he can stand on a level with John Sherman as a guide upon questions of finance.

Comfort for Jenks.
New York Advertiser.

The only consolation that Jenks, of Pennsylvania, gets out of it is that his friends all tell him that he can afford to wait. He'll have to wait.

Holds His Own.
New York Commercial Advertiser.

It is presumed that Mr. Jenks will consent his pastor concerning the propriety of attending the inauguration.

Will He Say "Go?"
Washington Post.

It is presumed that Mr. Jenks will consent his pastor concerning the propriety of attending the inauguration.

NO TRACE OF CORRUPTION

Report of the House Committee That Investigated Panama Canal Affairs.

No Evidence That Money Was Improperly Used in America—Hon. R. W. Thompson's Conclusion with the Committee.

REPORT ON PANAMA INQUIRY.

The Committee Found Nothing to Indicate that Congressmen Were Bribe.

WASHINGTON, March 2.—The House Panama investigating committee, in its report to-day finds that as far as the treaty of 1846, with New Grenada, is concerned, and so far as the concessions granted to and contracts made with the present Panama Railroad Company corporation are concerned, there are no clear grounds for the assertion that any exclusive right to cross the isthmus was ever in terms granted, or by implication secured, either to an American corporation, or to a citizen of the United States, to the exclusion of citizens of any other country. There seems no ground, so far as the evidence before the committee goes, for the claim that the government of New Grenada or the United States of Colombia has ever guaranteed that the United States shall control the transit, or place any limitation on the legal rights of shareholders in the railway company or restriction in the nationality of its owners or stock.

The committee has done its utmost in the limited time before it to investigate the charge that money was expended to prevent opposition to the plans of the canal company. It has been unable thus far to trace, directly or indirectly, the expenditure of any money whatever in a corrupt way to influence the legislative or executive action of the United States government. It may be that no investigation, however prolonged, after this lapse of time, could be efficient in making such discovery, even if such corrupt use of money was made, but this is a subject of which your committee does not desire authoritatively to express its opinion, that further investigation would be entirely fruitless. The report comments upon the visit of De Lesseps to the United States in 1879 and the refusal of the Senate to ratify the treaty he presented. The American committee was appointed to convey the impression that American capital and sympathy were back of the enterprise.

The committee further says that Hon. R. W. Thompson became secretary of the American committee and resigned his place in the Cabinet. He was notified that he had been notified the President, and that the President acquiesced in his resignation unless he would resign, causing no severance of the personal friendly relations between them. Testimony was taken by the committee showing that this action on the part of Secretary Thompson was a great disappointment and surprise to President Hayes, and he so expressed himself to others. The committee finds that Mr. Thompson for the next three or four years was exceedingly vigilant in watching legislation and most active and able in his efforts and influence to postpone consideration of any legislation tending to the construction of the canal. He was very active in the matter of the Panama Canal Company. So far as the testimony goes, it shows that Mr. Thompson did the work of the American committee. He supervised purchases for the construction of the canal, watched legislation, etc.

The object of the contract between the Pacific Mail Company and the Panama Railroad Company was to maintain rates above the level to which they would fall if free competition between several routes had continued. It seems to be a very large, if not an absolutely controlling interest in the stock and directory of the Pacific Mail Company is owned by individuals and estates very largely in the hands of the directors of the Panama Railroad Company. It is proven that the directors present at the meeting of the Panama Railroad Company's directors at which the contract between the Pacific Mail and the railroad company was made in 1878 was ratified and executed. That this system has for fifteen years been diminishing commerce between New York and San Francisco, and that the Panama Railroad Company is a very large, if not an absolutely controlling interest in the stock and directory of the Pacific Mail Company is proven that the directors present at the meeting of the Panama Railroad Company's directors at which the contract between the Pacific Mail and the railroad company was made in 1878 was ratified and executed. That this system has for fifteen years been diminishing commerce between New York and San Francisco, and that the Panama Railroad Company is a very large, if not an absolutely controlling interest in the stock and directory of the Pacific Mail Company is proven that the directors present at the meeting of the Panama Railroad Company's directors at which the contract between the Pacific Mail and the railroad company was made in 1878 was ratified and executed. 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